



Washington, D.C. 20520

March 10, 1983

~~SECRET/SENSITIVE~~

TO: William P. Clark, Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs

FROM: Richard B. Stone ~~RBS~~

SUBJECT: Proposal Regarding "New White Paper"

The very first assignment you gave me was to figure out and suggest the best possible use of the new product which would be similar to last year's "White Paper," which traced insurgent support from Cuba, Nicaragua, etc. into El Salvador. This paper is now being edited in ARA and I have looked at it twice. It still needs some work, but we are doing that.

In our 9:00 a.m. conference phone call Wednesday, I raised the possibility, and I would like now to make it a specific proposal: that the "new White Paper" only be released if, as and when we can simultaneously declassify and release photographic or other evidence showing either the air and/or ground and/or water supply lines for arms shipments from Nicaragua and other points into El Salvador. The process of gathering this information is now, as you know, happening.

I want to make it clear, here, that I am not suggesting that we give away the "source" store. But, these sources are mainly conventional aircraft rather than satellite platforms, and the opportunity to close the loop with irrefutable, objective evidence and to debunk the Sandinistas' denials is vital.

As a suggested method, if this idea is accepted, the intelligence community/DOD could first present the evidence to the Congressional Intelligence Oversight Committees and, after the latter are persuaded by this evidence, to permit one or more Members of the Committees to release the declassified material at the same time that the Administration releases the "new White Paper." We also could have the Administration simultaneously declassify some additional supporting evidence to attest further to the accuracy of the current photographs and film released by the Congress.

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The Administration release should include the texts of the most emphatic denials previously made by the Sandinistas. We are gathering some of these good quotes now.

The theme of these releases, therefore, would be not only that the Sandinistas "lie and supply," but also that "here is evidence that the insurgents in Salvador are not merely local 'reformers'. They are vigorously and specifically supplied and led from the outside."

CC: P - LEagleburger
ARA - TEnders
WH - WRaymond
WH - ASapia-Bosch
WH - CNorth
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